

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 198832

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, GH

SUBJECT: GHANA'S RELATIONS WITH NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA

REF: ACCRA 5056

1. BASED UPON REPORTS OF RECENT NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION VISITS TO OTHER CAPITALS IN AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA, ONE OF PROBABLE TOPICS DURING NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION VISIT TO ACCRA WAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN GHANA AND NORTH KOREA INCLUDING STRONG NORTH KOREAN EFFORT TO DISCOURAGE ESTABLISHMENT OF GHANAIAIAN TIES WITH REPUBLIC OF KOREA. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT EMBASSY APPROACH TO GOG ON BEHALF OF ROKG WOULD BE WARRANTED AT THIS TIME, BUT IF APPROPRIATE OCCASION ARISES TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF IMPROVED RELATIONS BETWEEN GHANA AND SOUTH KOREA, EMBASSY SHOULD DRAW ON THE FOOWING POSITION.

2. WE BELIEVE THAT EVEN-HANDED TREATMENT OF TWO KOREAN
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PARTIES BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ESSENTIAL TO CREATE

CLIMATE CONDUCIVE TO STABILITY OF KOREAN PENINSULA AND RESOLUTION OF KOREAN ISSUES BY KOREANS. ROKG HAS RECOGNIZED THIS NECESSITY AND PRESIDENT PARK IN JUNE 1973 PUBLICLY EXPRESSED INTENTION TO OEAL WITH ALL COUNTRIES ON BASIS OF EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY.

3. IN CONTRAST, HOWEVER, NORTH KOREA HAS ACTIVELY SOUGHT TO ISOLATE ROK IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS AND INHIBIT DEVELOPMENT OF ROKG RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES WHENEVER POSSIBLE. ALTHOUGH APPROACHES TO BLOCK COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN MADE ON BEHALF OF ROK BY FRIENDLY COUNTRIES, NO BLOC COUNTRY HAS YET AGREED TO RECOGNIZE ROKG. ROK DIPLOMATS HAVE ACTIVELY CAMPAIGNED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD SEEKING EVEN-HANDED TREATMENT FOR BOTH KOREAS FROM HOST GOVERNMENTS ON QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. WE FEEL THAT GOVERNMENT OF GHANA COULD MAKE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY BY ADOPTING EVEN-HANDED APPROACH TO FUTURE RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA AND ROKG.

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